

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 COME-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9023

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 3439

E.O. 11652: NGDS

TAGS: EALR, EGEN, PINT, TU, CY

SUBJ: TURKEY AND THE ECONOMY OF THE FEDERATED

TURKISH CYPRIOT STATE (FTCS)

REF: A. ANKARA 2956 (NOTAL) B. STATE 96948 (NOTAL)

1. THE NEW MINISTER OF LABOR, AHMET TEVFIK PAKSU, WAS RECENTLY QUOTED BY THE MASS-CIRCULATION DAILY HURRIYET AS SAYING THAT 10,000 TURKISH WORKERS WOULD BE SENT TO CYPRUS AFTER THE BEGINNING OF MAY. PAKSU, THE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT CONTINUED, SAID A COLLECTIVE INSURANCE AGREEMENT WOULD BE SIGNED SOON WITH THE TURKISH CYPRIOT AUTHORITIES AND A SPECIAL OFFICE WOULD BE SET UP IN MERSIN TO HANDLE THE PROSPECTIVE TRANSFER OF THE WORKERS, WHO WOULD BE EMPLOYED IN THE TOURISM, AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL SECTORS.

2. COMMENT: FROM TIME TO TIME OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS TURKISH OFFICIALS HAVE MADE STATEMENTS REGARDING PLANS TO SEND MAINLAND TURKS TO THE NORTHERN SECTOR OF CYPRUS. PAKSU'S REPORTED REMARKS ARE THE LATEST EXAMPLE. HOWEVER, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE RESPONSIBLE OFFICE IN THE LABOR MINISTRY TOLD US
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HE HAD NOT RPT NOT BEGUN PREPARATIONS TO SEND WORKERS TO

THE ISLAND, NOR DOES HE YET KNOW OF ANY FIRM PLANS TO DO SO.
NEITHER PAKSU NOR ANY OTHER TURKISH OFFICIAL, TO OUR KNOWLEDGE,
HAS MADE A PUBLIC STATEMENT SPECIFICALLY REFERRING TO THE PROSPECTIVE
SETTLEMENT OF 15,000 TURKISH FAMILIES IN FAMAGUSTA (REF. B).
MACOMBER

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